



EAST TEXAS A&M

— UNIVERSITY —

ART 1301-WWE – Art Appreciation Course Syllabus - Spring 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Chelsea Baranski

Office Location: Art 2

Office Hours: 5th - Conference

Office Phone: 903-839-5551

University Email Address: Chelsea.Baranski@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook(s) Required: Sachant, Pamela J., ed. *Introduction to Art: Design, Context, and Meaning*. Dahlonega, GA: University of North Georgia Press, 2016.

- **Open Educational Resource (OER):** click the link below to download a free textbook copy. <https://ung.edu/university-press/books/introduction-to-art.php>

Online Articles and Videos:

Online materials from scholarly sources and museum websites accessed via D2L.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the relationships between the visual arts and other expressions of human imagination and invention. Special attention is given to parallel developments in the histories of ideas, technology, and art.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, students will:

1. Gain an understanding of art terminology, the elements of art, and the principles of design.
2. Gain an understanding of the processes and materials used in the production of various works of art.

3. Gain an understanding of the visual arts as an expression of human insight, imagination, and technological achievement.
4. Learn how to critically interpret and evaluate works of art.
5. Learn the ways in which art reflects or communicates social, political, ideological, and religious values and constructions.
6. Explain and differentiate creative works as expressions of values within cultural and historical contexts.
7. Learn to recognize the interconnections between art and other expressions of human activity, such as literature, science, economics, music, and theatre.

Minimal Technical Skills Needed:

Using D2L Brightspace learning management system, Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint.

Course Instruction Methods and Student Expectations:

This course will require both reading material located in the D2L classroom, weekly reading assignments from the course textbook, and viewing of online videos. Assignments will include writing assignments, discussions, creative projects, and quizzes. There will be a midterm exam and final exam.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Grading:

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

- A = 90%-100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 59% or Below

Assessments:

- Weekly Assignments - 20%
- Research/Writing Assignments - 20%
- Creative Projects - 10%
- Group Project - 10%
- Quizzes - 20%
- Midterm/Final Exam - 20%

Weekly Assignments - 20%

Weekly assignments include individual assignments and/or group discussions that are in-class and/or on D2L.

Research/Writing Assignments - 20%

Research-based assignments will have a writing component such as a Formal Analysis and a Compare/Contrast Research Assignment with scholarly sources.

Creative Projects - 10%

Creative Projects include hands-on art projects that allow students to explore a variety of art media, allows for self-discovery, and reflection.

Group Project - 10%

A Group Project will allow students to collaborate, research a given topic, create a professional presentation, and gain experience presenting and speaking about art.

Quizzes - 20%

Material for quizzes will come from course lectures, videos, textbook readings, and assigned readings. The format for quizzes will be multiple choice.

Midterm/Final Exam - 20%

Material for the Midterm and Final Exams will come from course lectures, videos, textbook readings, and assigned readings. The format for midterm and final exams will be multiple choice and short answer responses

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week 0:	Introductions, Get to Know You, Observing Art - Guided Practice
Week 1:	Syllabus, Chapter 1: What is Art? Quiz: Syllabus
Week 2:	Chapter 2: The Structure of Art Creative Project #1
Week 3:	Ch 3 - Significance of Materials Used
Week 4:	Quiz: Chapters 1, 2, 3 Chapter 4 - Describing Art
Week 5:	The Case for Museums Chapter 6: Connecting Art to our Lives
Week 6:	Chapter 5: Meaning in Art Creative Project #2
Week 7:	Midterm

	Group Project
Week 8:	Group Project Presentations
Spring Break	
Week 9:	Creative Project #3 Research Paper
Week 10:	Chapter 7: Architecture
Week 11:	Chapter 9: Art & Identity
Week 12:	Chapter 8: Art & Power Creative Project #4
Week 13:	Quiz: Chapters 7, 8, 9
Week 14:	Chapter 10: Art and Religion Chapter 11: Art and Ethics
Week 15:	Final Exam

COURSE POLICIES:

Attendance:

It is encouraged that you attend all class sessions. If you are absent, please email your instructor to communicate your absence. All course material and assignments will be in D2L, so it is important and your responsibility to check our course daily - especially when you are absent. Every day you are absent, you are allotted the same amount of time to submit missing assignments. If there are extenuating circumstances causing you to miss class, then it is vital to communicate that to your instructor as soon as possible. There are cases when too many absences can cause you to miss too much course work and it may be advisable to withdraw from the course.

Academic dishonesty:

There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this class. Be sure that you understand what constitutes academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on exams, theft of instructional material or exams, representing the work of someone else as one's own, etc.). Academic dishonesty is a severe transgression in college and may result in referral to the Dean of Students, dismissal from class, expulsion from the University, and a failing grade.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.etamu.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here: <https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.

<https://inside.etamu.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>.

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedures 13.99.99.R0.01](#)

<http://www.etamu.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

Graduate Students Academic Integrity Policy and Form

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<https://inside.etamu.edu/aboutus/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

East Texas A&M University
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu

Website: [Student Disability Services](#)

<https://www.etamu.edu/student-disability-services/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and East Texas A&M Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.etamu.edu/counsel

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



<http://telusproduction.com/app/5108.html>

AI use policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty